March	Ther.	Winds.		
18.	40.	S. SW.	1	Clear. The City was ſprinkled over with ſmall Aſhes, like Kitchen Aſhes, which were attracted by the Loadſtone.
19.	42. 0	W.	1	A few thin Clouds.
20.	37. 0	0		Almoſt clear. *Veſuvius* became entirely quiet.

VIII. *A ſhort Account, by Mr.* John Eames, *F. R. S. of a Book intituled,* Tuhhfat ilkibar, *printed at* Conſtantinople, Anno Dom. 1728.

THE Advantage of Printing above Writing, has at laſt prevailed with the Grand Signor to permit a Printing-Preſs to be ſet up at *Conſtantinople*. It was obtained upon a Memorial preſented to him by the Grand Vizier, with the Conſent of the Mufti.

The Privilege is granted to *Zaid* the Son of *Mehemet Effendi*, late Ambaſſador in *France*, and *Ibrahim Mutaſarrica*, the Author of a ſmall Tract in this Book. The Licence extends to the printing all Sorts of Books written in the Oriental Languages, except ſuch as treat of the *Mahometan* Religion.

The Book before me ſeems to be one of the firſt that ever was printed there. For though *Giauhauri*'s *Arabic* Dictionary, tranſlated into *Turkiſh*, was what the *Turks* deſigned, for particular Reaſons, to begin withal; yet the Manuſcript, from which they printed off the firſt Sheets, was found to be ſo incorrect, that the Grand Signor ordered the printing of it to be ſtopp'd, 'till a more correct Copy could be procured.

During

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During this Stop, the Book I am to give a brief Account of was printed, containing about 150 Leaves.

The Language of it is not *Arabic*, as was ſuppoſed, but *Turkiſh*, though it has ſeveral Words and ſome Sentences that are ſo. The Title, or what may ſerve as ſuch, is *Tuhhfat ilkibar*, or, *A Preſent to the Great*; containing an Account of ſeveral Engagements at Sea. The Author is *Hagi Califa*, ſtiled *Coelebi Almurhhum*, *i. e.* A Gentleman who has obtained Mercy, or deceaſed.

It conſiſts of two Tracts, a large, and a very ſmall one. The latter is done by the Publiſher, *Ibrahim Mutaſarrica*. *Mutaſarrica* is a Title of Honour ſignifying a Horſe-Soldier, obliged to go to the Wars when the Grand Signor goes in Perſon, but not elſe.

It is a ſhort Account of Geographical Meaſures of Diſtances, *&c.* particularly of the Circumference of the Earth.

The principal Treatiſe is partly Hiſtorical, and partly Geographical; the latter treats of the Nature of the Terreſtrial Globe, the Uſe of Maps, and Situation of Places, particularly of *Venice*, *Corfu*, *Albania*, *&c.* and ſuch as border upon the *Turkiſh* Dominions.

The Hiſtorical Part is an Account of ſeveral Naval Expeditions and Battles between the *Turks* and *Chriſtians*, eſpecially during the Holy War, in the *Mediterranean* Sea, with their Conqueſt of the Iſlands and Places of Note upon the Sea-Coaſts. It is an Abridgement of the Hiſtory of their Admirals, from the taking of *Conſtantinople* to the Year 1653; gives a Deſcription of the Grand Signor's Arſenal at the *Porte*, with the Charges of maintaining it; and concludes with ſome Directions to the *Turkiſh* Officers.

Beſides a general Map of the World, there are three others; one of the *Mediterranean*, or *White Sea*, as

the *Turks* call it; another of the *Archipelago*, and the third of the *Venetian* Gulph: They have each Scales of *Turkiſh*, *French* and *Italian* Miles annexed; but what is ſomething ſurprizing, theſe Maps have the Degrees of Latitude, but not of Longitude, marked upon the Sides.

The laſt Plate has two Mariner's Compaſſes, the one containing the *Turkiſh* Names of the ſeveral Points; the other, beſides the *Turkiſh*, has the *Arabic* Names, which are taken from certain Stars ſuppoſed to riſe and ſet upon or near thoſe Points.

The Book ends with Words to this Senſe: This Treatiſe was done by the Perſons employ'd in the Buſineſs of Printing, at the Printing-Houſe erected in the noble Month of *Dulkaadah*, in the Year 114:, (*i. e.* 1728) in the good City of *Conſtantinople*. May God, *&c.*

I forgot to obſerve, it has the Imprimatur, or Commendations of a *Turkiſh* Divine, and three *Effendies*, prefix'd; and at the End an Index of the *Errata*, with their Emendations in three Pages. The whole is done upon ſhining or gumm'd Paper, ſtamp'd with three Creſcents in Pale, and an Imperial Crown, proper to the *Turks*.

I join with the learned Mr. *Clodius* (Author of a *Turkiſh* Lexicon and Grammar lately publiſhed at *Lipſic*) in wiſhing the *Turks* would print a compleat *Livy*, which Fame ſays is repoſited in the Grand Signor's Library in the *Turkiſh* Language, together with other *European* Books tranſlated into *Turkiſh*, whoſe Originals are not to be met with in *Europe*, a Catalogue of ſome of which is expected from the younger Monſ. *Fourmond*.

F I N I S.